RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 4th March, 1991/13th Phalguna 1912 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, **Mr. Chairman** in the Chair.

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before we take up today's agenda, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of Shri U. N. Mahida, a former Member of this House, on the 25th February, 1991, at the age of 87 years.

Shri U. N. Mahida was born at village Antroli in Surat District in April, 1904 and had his education at Elphinstone College, Bombay and College of Engineering, Poona. He represented the State of Gujarat in this House from April 1968 to April 1974. Starting his career as a Civil Engineer, Shri Mahida was appointed to the Indian Service of Engineers in 1929 and rose to occupy several high engineering and technical offices which he held with great distinction. He was an Engineer of outstanding ability and international repute. Shri Mahida was also the University Guide for students doing Ph.D. degree in Irrigation and Public Health Engineering at the University of Bombay. He had rich experience in the field of Irrigation. Water and Power Resource Development and was regarded as an eminent expert in these matters.

A distinguished public servant, Shri Mahida was a man of exemplary integrity, combined with singular efficiency and charm. In the death of Shri Mahida, the nation has lost an eminent technocrat and a dedicated public servant.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Shri U. N. Mahida.

I request Members to rise in their places and observe silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

(Hon. Members then stood in silence for one minute)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Secretary-General will convey to the members of the bereaved family our sense of profound sorrow and deep sympathy.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

आयल इंडिया लिमिटेड के चयन बोर्डों को समाप्त किया जाना

*101. **श्री विठ्ठलभाई मोतीराम पटेल :** क्या पैट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि खिमिज क्षेत्रों में गैस एजेंसियों, पेट्रोल पम्पों आदि के डीलरों के चयन संबंधी आयल इंडिया के चयन बोर्डों को समाप्त कर दिया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ग) क्या इस प्रयोजन के लिये कोई वैकल्पिक व्यवस्था की गई है ?

पैट्रोलियम और रसायन तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्री (श्री सत्यप्रकाश मालवीय) : (क) आयल इंडिया लिमिटेड के पास ऐसा कोई चयन बोर्ड नहीं है ।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: I asked the question whether the Government of India has abolished the Oil Selection Board. I don't know who has changed the format of my question. I have not asked about Oil India only. I have asked a general question about the Oil India Selection Board. The Minister must reply to me about my original question — have they abolished the Oil Selection Board or not? If they have abolished it, what are the reasons?

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: We have not abolished the Oil Selection Board. Only the tenure of the Members, which was to expire within two years, was terminated.

SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: The Members on the Selection Board were nominated recently, about

6 or 8 months back. The Petroleum Minister has sent us the list of the Members of the Oil Selection Board only six months back. Then how can their term expire within two years? I would like the hon. Minister to check up his records. They have been recently appointed only six months back. What are the reasons for abolishing it? The hon. Minister is not correct about what he is replying just now.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: They were appointed not recently, but in February 1990. They were appointed for a period not exceeding two years from the date of commencement of thier work.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: The hon. Minister has replied to my colleague, Mr. Patel that the Boards were formed in February, 1990. Now they have been abolished within six months or nine months, whatever it is. May I know from the Minister what are the specific reasons for abolishing the Boards? Secondly, what are the criteria for granting gas agencies? Mr. Minister, you are aware of the various criteria for granting agencies to the unemployed youth of the backward classes or the unemployed youth of the general class. Some people came to me from near about Maharashtra. There is one Board in Goa also. For your information, I have myself many times written to the Petroleum Minister about the problems being faced by the people for getting agencies. People come to us. Youth come to us and we have to write. Your Ministry people replied that this is with the Board and asked them to appear before it. The youth whom I have sent there said that they require money. They told me that the entire process and system of awarding gas agencies is totally corrupt. They told me "You are also a political worker, you know what is happening there." I said, I do not know. They said that the money is shared right from chaprasi to the highest official in the Shastri Bhavan." What can I say?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Put your question please.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: When the hon. Members are intervening, how can I prevent them? They are also valid interventions. I would like to know from the Minister whether he would devise a fool-proof system and whether he would consider giving gas agencies to the deserving poor people, OBCs and unemployed youth and not to the relatives of the political bosses who use their muscle power and money power.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: The entire procedure for selection of various agencies like LPG or retail outlets for diesel or petrol is under review. I would invite the suggestions from the hon. Members and we will definitely look into them and we will try to improve the situation.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: How? What about corruption?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is inviting your sugegstions. You send them.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: You send any specific case, we will look into it.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I had sent it to you.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: As far as I am concerned, I have not reecived a single complaint from you.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: I gave you a chit wherein I wrote the name of the person from Sangli. You did not do anything. Mr. Malaviya, please be fair and honest to yourself.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: May I know from the hon. Minister the purpose of the constitution of these

Boards? That is one. Secondly, may I know from the Minister the reason for their abolition? I was told that the reason for abolition some two or three months ago was that there was Gulf crisis and consequently the same is being abolished. Now that the Gulf crisis is over, the hon. Minister is thinking of reviving those Boards which have been abolished. Some of the members have been appointed in February last year and their term is for two years. Suddenly they have been asked to go. Why these members have been asked to go? If these Boards are revived, will the same members be given an opportunity or will at least 50 per cent of the members be given an opportunity to serve on the Boards? That is what I want to know from the Minister.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Sir, I have already submitted that the members were appointed in February, 1990 for a period not exceeding two years. The entire procedure whether to continue the Oil Selection Boards or not to continue the Oil Selection Boards or to devise other methods is under the active consideration of the Government. That is why I am inviting suggestions from the hon. Members.

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : सभापति जी, हमारे बुजुर्ग सदस्य श्री कुलकर्णी ने जो बातें अपना प्रश्न पूछते समय कही थीं, मैं कहना चाहूंगी कि उन बातों में बहुत सार है और आम तौर पर इस तरह की धांधलियां हो रही हैं और वे अक्सर गैस एजेंसियां और पेट्रोल पंप वितरित करते समय दिखाई और सुनाई देती हैं ।

मंत्री जी ने जवाब देते हुए कहा कि उनके मंत्रालय में इसका रिव्यू किया जा रहा है और वे इस संबंध में आने वाले सुझावों की ओर ध्यान देंगे । मैं उनसे यह जानना चाहूंगी कि क्या वह यह आश्वासन देंगे कि इससे पहले कि यह रिव्यू पूरा हो, मौजूदा निर्धारित व्यवस्था के तहत वे कोई भी गैस एजेंसी और पेट्रोल पंप एलॉट नहीं करेंगे ? साथ ही रिव्यू करते समय क्या वह इस चीज का ध्यान रखेंगे कि कोई ऐसा फूल-प्रूफ़ मैथड वह निकालें जिससे इस तरह की धांधलियां, इस तरह की शिकायतें दूर हो सकें ? अभी तो एक निश्चित व्यवस्था है कि शेडयूल्ड कास्ट के लोगों को कुछ पेट्रोल पंप दिए जाते हैं, अनइम्प्लॉयड यूथ को कुछ दिए जाते हैं । इनके संबंध में जो शिकायतें सामने आई हैं क्या वह उनको ध्यान में रखेंगे और क्या वे सदन को निश्चित आश्वासन देंगे कि जब तक यह रिव्यू पूरा नहीं हो जाता, तब तक कोई गैस एजेंसी और पेट्रोल पंप वितरित नहीं किया जाएगा ?

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : माननीय सभापति जी, मैंने निवेदन किया कि सारी जो प्रक्रिया है उसका पुनरीक्षण हो रहा है लेकिन दूसरी ओर लोगों की ओर से और ऑयल सलेक्शन बोर्ड की ओर से भी बराबर इस बात पर जोर दिया जा रहा कि गैस एजेंसियों और पेट्रोल पंपों का एलाटमेंट जल्दी किया जाए । इसलिए संबंध में शीघ्रातिशीघ्र कोई कोई निर्णय लेना ही पड़ेगा लेकिन यदि इस संबंध में कोई भी शिकायत सामने आती है तो उसकी जांच कराई जाती है और उस पर उचित निर्णय लिया जाता है। मैं सदन को यह आश्वासन देता हूं कि यदि और भी कोई शिकायत इस संबंध में आएगी तो उसकी पूरी छानबीन की जाएगी और उसकी जांच उच्च स्तर पर कराई जाएगी।

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : फिर इस रिव्यू के क्या मायने हैं ? एक तरफ़ रिव्यू हो रहा है और दूसरी तरफ़ एलॉट किया जा रहा है ? इससे रिव्यू तो बेमानी हो जाएगा।

श्री सभापति : आप अपने तमाम सुझाव दे दीजिए कि किस तरह से फूल-प्रूफ सिस्टम हो सकता है ।

SHRI RAJ MOHAN GANDHI: She has asked for a specific assurance that until the new procedure is

evolved, no agencies will be awarded. We would like from the Government a clear assurance on that.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Mr. Gandhi, you are only repeating the question of Mrs. Sushma Swaraj. I have already replied to it.

श्री राजमोहन गांधी : इनका उत्तर है कि हम एश्योरेंस नहीं देंगे ।

श्री सभापति : ठीक है, कुछ स्पेशल केसेज हो सकते हैं जिनमें तुरंत देने की जरूरत हो।

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : फिर तो यह रिव्यू फेक होगा ।

*102. [*Postponed to the 11th March, 1991*]

*103. [*The questioner (Shri Suresh Kalmadi) was absent. For answer* vide *col.* 39-40 infra]

*104. [*The questioners (Shri Mohd. Kaleelur Rehman and Chowdhry Hari Singh) were absent. For answer,* vide *col.* 40-41 infra]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 105.

Installation of Thermal Power Projects in Andhra Pradesh

*105. DR. NARRADDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of proposals submitted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh to the Central Government regarding installation of Thermal Power Projects in the State and which are still pending; and

(b) at what stage is each proposal?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI KALYAN SINGH KALVI): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Installation of Thermal Power Projects in Andhra Pradesh

(a) and (b) The proposal have been received from the Andhra Pradesh State Authorities in the Central Electricity Authority for installation of Thermal Power Projects in the State Sector. Their present status is given below:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Project and Capacity	Estd. Cost Rs. Crs.	Date of reciept in CEA	Present Status
1	2	3	4	5
1	Vijaywada St. III (2X210 MW)	585.76	8/89	Sanctioned on 19-2-1991.
2	Vishakhapatnam (2X500 MW)	1560.28	8/89	Techno-economically appraised by the CEA in Oct., 1990 Clearance of associated Transmission System., Availability of Water,, Fly Ash Utilisation Management Plan yet to be tied up by the AP State Electrtcity Board.